

## SUMMARY OF OPA ORDERS ISSUED DURING WEEK ENDING JULY 17 AFFECTING AGRICULTURE

Prepared especially for State Extension Directors

By the OPA

Issued by Extension Service USDA

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America, under sugar rationing, is consuming only slightly less than our rate of domestic production and imports, it was revealed by the OPA in what constitutes possibly the most important OPA action of interest to the farmer this week.

### SUGAR

United States, under current rationing plans, is consuming about 475,000 tons of sugar each month, including supplies for lend-lease and the armed forces. It is being supplied out of its own crops and all imports at the rate of about 504,523 tons per month. On the basis of this indicated rate of flow, our annual sugar supply will total 6,054,284 tons. This is about 354,284 tons more than we are using in a year. This is a margin too narrow for normal times, but not too dangerous under a rationing system, where immediate curtailment of consumption can be put into effect when the need arises (OPA release - 253).

An extra 2 pounds of sugar now may be obtained with Stamp No. 7 in War Ration Books. This stamp became valid July 10 and may be used until midnight of August 22 (OPA 234). The sugar that may be purchased with Stamp No. 7 is in addition to the regular rations provided by Stamps Nos. 5 and 6.

OPA arrangements have been completed with Defense Supplies Corporation for Government reimbursement to the California and Hawaiian Sugar Co., refiners, for unusual costs in moving cane sugar from their California plant to territories east of Chicago (OPA-278).

Procedure was announced for prompt replacement of lost, destroyed, or stolen war ration books along with changes in sugar rationing regulations permitting manufacturers to make broader use of their sugar allowances (OPA-225).

The home canning provision of the sugar rationing regulations gives American housewives every opportunity to conserve fresh fruit, wherever and whenever available (OPA-249).

### CANNED VEGETABLES

OPA announced a new price ceiling formula for use by a limited number of vegetable canners who customarily sold their products on a prepaid freight allowed or delivered basis (OPA-242). This will enable these operators to continue to utilize such sales practices.

### MILK

In order to afford temporary relief to a minor portion of the New York metropolitan area's 26,000 retail food stores which were caught with abnormally low March 1942 ceiling prices for fluid whole milk in glass or paper containers, OPA adjusted upward these retailers' permissible sales prices by 1/2 to 1 cent per quart, depending on present ceilings (OPA-296).



#### PINE OIL

Price Administrator Leon Henderson rolled back prices for natural and synthetic pine oil - a chemical vital to war production - to levels prevailing in October 1941 (OPA-268).

#### COFFEE

Premiums on small lot sales of green coffee - 25 bags or less - have been reduced to 3 percent of ceiling prices as compared with  $7\frac{1}{2}$  percent previously allowed (OPA-254).

#### BEEF

Effective date of the beef regulation (Maximum Price Regulation 169) as it affects all nonslaughtering sellers, has been postponed until July 20 (OPA-271). Previous effective date was July 13.

#### CHRISTMAS CARDS

OPA will issue a price regulation establishing a method by which manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers of Christmas greeting cards will be able to compute their maximum prices for this type of merchandise in advance of the fall retail selling season (OPA-280).

#### COTTON PRODUCTS

More than 1,700 individual dollars-and-cents ceiling prices, chiefly at manufacturing levels, were set for terry towels, cotton and cotton mixture blankets, corduroys, and other products (OPA 230).

#### FINISHED PIECE GOODS

Several groups of fabrics and certain classes of sellers have been exempted from the Finished Piece Goods Regulation No. 127 (OPA-248).

#### CONTAINERS

Seasonal veneer containers produced in Western States have been placed under provisions of Maximum Price Regulation 160, Seasonal Wooden Agricultural Containers (OPA-264). Previously these containers had been excluded from the regulation.

#### LUMBER

OPA announced two measures to encourage a maximum output of aircraft spruce and aircraft fir logs - highly specialized products now used both in combat and in training plane production (OPA 251).

Dollars-and-cents maximum prices were set for those items of lumber produced from shortleaf yellow pine not previously subject to specific ceilings; also to lumber produced from longleaf yellow pine, which until now has been priced under the General Maximum Price Regulation (OPA-257).

#### AUTOMOBILES

Release of automobiles from the governmental reserve pool is provided in exchange for others of lower price or greater passenger capacity (OPA-276).

#### TIRES

Tire sellers may file their June 30 inventory reports with local war price and rationing boards any time up to and including July 25, a 10-day extension over the previous deadline (OPA 284).



## GASOLINE

By July 22 some 8,000,000 motorists and all motorcyclists are expected to be in possession of their A and D coupon books (OPA-233).

Service station operators in the Great Falls, Mont., tank wagon area who reduced third and regular grade gasoline prices in the last 4 days of February 1942 in compliance with a request from OPA, now have been granted permission to restore their prices to former levels (OPA-246).

OPA urges eastern motorists to abide by State and local specifications in displaying the car stickers identifying the type of ration book issued them. (OPA-267).

The 50-mile border zone in which gasoline sale were to be restricted under the initial plan is removed from the new gasoline rationing plan (OPA-272). Rationed motorists must not include estimated mileage to be driven in the 50-mile zone when applying for supplemental fleet and service rations. An alternative plan to meet the border problem is being developed. This will be announced before the new plan goes into effect on July 22.

Fleet passenger automobiles or motorcycles registering for gasoline rations under the new coupon plan must apply for fleet rations (OPA-281).

## LIMED CALF CHEEKINGS

A specific \$2.25 maximum ceiling price has been set for limed calf cheekings. These are used in the manufacture of both hide glue and gelatin (OPA 239).

## GENERAL MAXIMUM PRICE REGULATION

The Panama Canal Zone has been removed from coverage by any price regulation. (OPA-228) This was done because all sales of commodities are made through departments or agencies of the United States Government selling at low margins. Thus, danger of speculative price increases is eliminated.

Sales by nonprofit agencies for the blind of articles manufactured by blind persons are excluded from the General Maximum Price Regulation (OPA-247).

Procedure is announced by which a retail store chain operating with an established uniform price policy may continue this policy in setting ceiling prices under the General Maximum Price Regulation (OPA-245).

Special procedural regulation No. 6, which permitted speedy handling of requests for adjustment of maximum prices for commodities or services under Government contracts or subcontracts, has been extended to cover similar applications under other OPA regulations (OPA 258).

Sales and deliveries of industrial diamonds are subject to the General Maximum Price Regulation (OPA-261).

Virtually all liquidation sales made under court order by receivers, trustees in bankruptcy, and similar judicial agents were exempt from Federal price regulations (OPA-275).



Maximum prices established by Section 1499.2 ("General Provisions") for certain services or commodities under the General Maximum Price Regulation may be modified by supplementary regulation (OPA-287).

OPA issued an announcement affecting the type of salvage handlers whose sales and deliveries are exempt from the General Maximum Price Regulation (OPA 274).

### SPEECHES

OPA officials must not engage in political activities, Price Administrator Leon Henderson warned, indicating that instant dismissal will follow such activity (OPA 283).

R. F. Gilbert, Director of OPA's Research Division, told the Wage Stabilization Conference of Airframe Manufacturing Industry, Hollywood, Calif., that "OPA is not a wage-determining agency. It does, however, have the responsibility of determining prices. In this connection OPA will recognize as grounds for a price adjustment in hardship cases under its regulations only such wage increases as are consistent with the President's program" (OPA-273).

OPA General Counsel, David Ginsburg stated that in cases where prices set by the General Maximum Price Regulation are less than the minimum prices established under State fair-trade acts, and where the retailer is enjoined by a State court from selling at the maximum price authorized by the General Maximum Price Regulation, he may apply to OPA for an adjustment of that maximum price in accordance with section 18 of the General Maximum Price Regulation (OPA-252).

Price Administrator Leon Henderson warned that "if effective price, rent, and rationing controls are desired than it is my conscientious duty to say that there must be both adequate funds for administration and freedom from crippling amendments" (OPA-266).